

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 00228 171819Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 /020 W
-----032772 180247Z /13

R 171447Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6665
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (TODMAN, TERENCE A.), XK, ES
SUBJECT: VISIT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN

REF: SAN SALVADOR 0174

1. FOLLOWING ARE TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
(MAJOR AND LICENCIADO) ALVARO ERNESTO MARTINEZ, WHICH SHOULD BE
IN SPANISH:

MR. MINISTER, I AM PLEASED FINALLY TO BE ABLE TO VISIT
YOUR BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY AND TO REPAY THE VISITS YOU, THE PRES-
IDENT, VICE PRESIDENT AND OTHERS HAVE MADE TO THE UNITED STATES
AND TO ME PERSONALLY.

WE HAVE HAD PROBLEMS AND MORE MAY BE ON THE HORIZON BUT I
AM CONFIDENT THAT WITH THE SPIRIT OF FRIENDLY COOPERATION
BASED ON MUTUAL INTEREST THAT HAS CHARACTERIZED OUR RELATIONS
FO ALMOST A CENTURY AND A HALF WE CAN RESOLVE ALL PROBLEMS
THAT MAY ARISE.

I KNOW THAT ONE PROBLEM EL SALVADOR HAS HAD IS ITS RELATIONS
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PAGE 02 SAN SA 00228 171819Z

WITH ITS NEIGHBOR, HONDURAS. THIS PROBLEM HAS CONCERNED US
ALSO SINCE WE BELIEVE THAT ONLY THROUGH PEACEFUL RELATIONS
AMONG ALL OUR COUNTRIES CAN DEVELOPMENT AND WELL-BEING OF OUR
PEOPLES BE PROMOTED. WE ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE TO LEND ALL
POSSIBLE SUPPORT THROUGHT THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
FOR A SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. WE ARE GRATIFIED TO
SEE THE EVIDENCES OF GOOD WILL ON BOTH SIDES AND WISH AN EARLY

SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE MEDIATION EFFORT SO THAT NORMAL RELATIONS MAY QUICKLY BE RESTORED.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND EL SALVADOR DURING THE PAST YEAR HAVE BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY STRONG EMPHASIS ON THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THIS HAS ALSO BEEN MANIFESTED IN OUR INCREASED CONCERN WORLDWIDE AS WELL AS HERE OVER TREATMENT OF AMERICAN CITIZENS. WE HAVE NOTED AND MADE A STRONG POINT IN THE REQUIRED REPORT TO THE US CONGRESS OF THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR SINCE THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION TOOK OVER LAST JULY 1.

WE ARE SINCERELY HOPEFUL, AND CONFIDENT, THE IMPROVEMENT WE HAVE NOTED CAN CONTINUE AND THE PERVASIVE DOUBTS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS OBSERVANCE IN EL SALVADOR CAN BE DISPELLED.

WE APPRECIATE THE THOUGHTFUL RESPONSES TO OUR APPEALS FOR OBSERVANCE OF THE REQUIREMENTS IN THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON CONSULAR RELATIONS ON CONSULAR NOTIFICATION IN CASES OF DETENTION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS. WE NOTE THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS AGAIN MADE FORMAL APPROACHES TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE TO ASSURE THAT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES ARE INFORMED ON THE PROCEDURES IN CASES OF DETENTION OF FOREIGNERS. WE ARE STILL FRANKLY CONCERNED OVER THE REPEATED FAILURE TO GIVE PROPER NOTICES, AND REPORTS OF MISTREATMENT, AND URGE THAT YOU FOLLOW UP TO INSURE VIGOROUS ACTION ON THE PART OF SECURITY FORCES TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 SAN SA 00228 171819Z

PREVENT REOCCURRENCES IN THE FUTURE. I WOULD REMARK THAT EARLY APPEARANCE OF THE US CONSUL ON THE SCENE IS IN YOUR OWN INTEREST SINCE ACCUSATIONS OF MISTREATMENT CAN BE RESOLVED IMMEDIATELY AND FABRICATION OF STORIES OF MISTREATMENT CAN BE PREVENTED.

2. IF TRANSLATION OF POINTS ARE REQUIRED PLEASE INFORM EMBASSY.

DEVINE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANSAA00228
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780025-0968
Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780155/aaaabuah.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e5cacfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 SAN SALVADOR 174
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3762295
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN
TAGS: OVIP, XK, ES, (TODMAN, TERENCE A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e5cacfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014